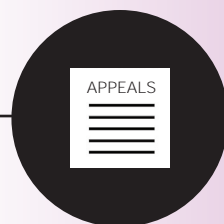
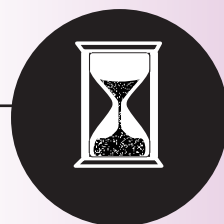
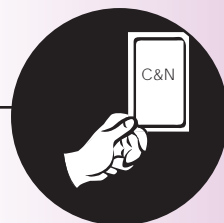


# Administrative Rules

**Chapter 296-900 WAC**  
June 2006 Edition

**Washington Industrial  
Safety & Health Act**



# **Standards Update to Chapter 296-900 WAC, Administrative Rules**

Issue Date 6/2006  
Effective Date 6/1/2006

The Department of Labor and Industries has rewritten and reorganized for clarity and ease of use the safety standards for Administrative Rules. The Department has repealed the rules out of Chapter 296-350 WAC and Chapter 296-800 WAC, and adopted them into a separate chapter, Chapter 296-900 WAC. These rules also apply to Agricultural employers.

- **Please discard WAC 296-350-010 through 296-350-990**
- **Please discard WAC 296-800-350 through 296-800-35084**

To receive future updates of this standard and all other Department of Labor and Industries safety and health standards electronically, please sign up on the WISHA Listserv (<http://www.lni.wa.gov/Safety/Rules/default.htm>). By subscribing to the Listserv, you will also receive rule updates, hearing notices, and informational packets for all safety and health rules.

Also available on the WISHA web site:

- WISHA Core Rules
- Other General WISHA Rules
- Industry and Task-specific Rules
- Proposed rules and hearings
- Newly adopted rules and new rule information
- WISHA Regional Directives (WRDs)
- WISHA Interim Operations and Interpretive Memoranda (WIIM)
- Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)

To receive hardcopy updates of this rule, please return the card located at the back of the book.

# Administrative Rules

Chapter 296-900 WAC

## Other Rules that may apply to your workplace

- The WISHA Safety and Health Core Rules, Chapter 296-800 WAC, contain the basic requirements that apply to most employers in Washington. They also contain:
  - An Introduction that lists important information you should know, including a section on building, fire and electrical codes.
  - A Resource section that includes a complete list of all WISHA rules and a directory of the Labor and Industries (L&I) offices.
- Other WISHA rules may apply to you, depending on the activities and operations of your workplace. Contact your local L&I office if you're uncertain about which WISHA requirements apply to you.
- To go online to access all the Safety and Health Rules: <http://www.lni.wa.gov/wisha>
- If you would like to receive e-mail notification of rule updates, please register for the Standards Listserv on the WISHA web site at <http://www.lni.wa.gov/home/listservs.htm>
- For a CD or paper copy contact us by:

Mail: Department of Labor and Industries  
P.O. Box 44620  
Olympia, WA 98504-4620

Telephone: 1-800-4BE-SAFE (1-800-423-7233)

# Notes

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# Administrative Rules

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# Administrative Rules

WAC 296-900-100

## Scope

This chapter applies to the following requirements and information regarding administration of the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA), chapter 49.17 RCW:

- Employer requests for using an alternative to WISHA requirements.
- Workplace inspections conducted by WISHA.
- Citations and penalties for violations of WISHA safety and health requirements.
- How to respond to actions that WISHA may take when requirements have been violated.
- Employer correction of cited violations, and notification to WISHA when the corrections are made.
- Employer obligations to inform employees.
- Reporting alleged safety and health hazards.
- Appeal and hearing processes for employers and employees.

Scope



# Notes

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# Variances

WAC 296-900-110

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### EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY

#### To follow requirements on granted variances

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# Variances

WAC 296-900-110

## Rule

WAC 296-900-11005

### Applying for a variance

#### IMPORTANT:

- A variance provides an approved alternative to WISHA requirements to protect employees from a workplace hazard. Variances can be permanent or temporary.
- Variances will **not** be retroactive. Employers are obligated to follow WISHA requirements until the variance is granted.

#### You must

- Follow steps 1-5 to apply for a variance when you wish to use an alternative to WISHA requirements as a means to protect your employees.

**Step 1:** Decide what type of variance is needed by reviewing the types of variances in Table 1, Requesting a Variance.

**Step 2:** Complete a written application for the variance, following the requirements in Table 1, Requesting a Variance.



#### Note:

A form, Variance Application (F414-021-000), is available for requesting variances:

- From any L&I office.
- On our web site under Safety Forms, Variance Application  
<http://www.lni.wa.gov/FormPublications/TablesForms/Safety/SafetyHealth.asp>



#### Reference:

For a list of the local L&I offices, see the Resources section of the Safety and Health Core Rules, Chapter 296-800 WAC.

**-Continued-**



WAC 296-900-11005

### Applying for a variance (continued)

**Step 3:** Notify employees before submitting any type of variance request by doing all of the following:

- Posting a copy of the request on your safety bulletin board.
- Using other appropriate means for notifying employees who may not be expected to receive notices posted on the safety bulletin board. For example, provide a copy to a designated representative or the safety committee.

**Step 4:** Submit the written request, using one of the following means:

- Mail to:  
Assistant Director  
WISHA Services  
P.O. Box 44650  
Olympia, WA 98504-4650
- Fax to: 360-902-5438
- Take to any L&I office.

**Step 5:** After receiving a written decision from WISHA about your request, immediately notify affected employees of the decision by using the methods in Step 3.

### You must

- Follow the specific requirements of the variance that WISHA has granted.



**Note:**

- If employers fail to follow Steps 1-5 above, the variance can't be granted.
- Citations may be issued for failing to follow a variance.
- Employers can always follow the original WISHA requirements instead of the variance requirements.
- If your variance is no longer necessary and you decide to follow the WISHA requirements instead, please advise WISHA in writing.

**-Continued-**



# Variances

WAC 296-900-110

## Rule

WAC 296-900-11005

### Applying for a variance (continued)

Table 1  
Requesting a Variance

For this type of variance	Include the following on your written application
<p><b>Permanent variance</b></p> <p>Request a permanent variance if you can show that you will be providing alternate methods of protecting employees from hazards that are as effective as those provided by the requirements from which you are requesting relief.</p> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <p>A permanent variance remains in effect unless WISHA modifies or revokes it. Examples of reasons a variance might be revoked include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– An employer requests the variance be revoked</li><li>– Requirements that existed when the variance was approved are modified</li><li>– The work location is changed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Employer name and address</li><li>• Employer or employer representative signature</li><li>• Work location and situations that apply to the variance</li><li>• Which specific requirements you want to vary from, with WAC numbers</li><li>• Description of proposed alternative methods of protection, and how they will protect employees</li><li>• How employees will be notified:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– About the variance request, as required in Step 2</li><li>– That they may request a hearing</li></ul></li><li>• The following notice on the first page of your posted application, written in large and clear enough print to be easily read:<p>"Attention Employees: Your employer is applying to WISHA for a variance from safety and health requirements. You have a right to ask WISHA for a hearing on the variance request, but you must ask for the hearing in writing by (date*). If no hearing is requested, WISHA will act on the variance request without a hearing."</p><p>* This date must be 21 calendar days after the variance request is mailed or delivered.</p></li></ul>
<p><b>Temporary variance</b></p> <p>Request a temporary variance if both of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New WISHA requirements can't be met for any of the following reasons:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Professional or technical people aren't available</li><li>– Materials or equipment aren't available</li><li>– Construction or alteration facilities can't be completed by the effective date of the requirements</li></ul></li><li>• You have an effective plan for meeting WISHA requirements as soon as possible</li></ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <p>Temporary variances remain in effect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Until current WISHA requirements are met</li><li>– No longer than one year, unless extended</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide all the information required above for permanent variances</li><li>• Also provide all of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– An explanation of why WISHA requirements can't be met, including documentation that supports this belief</li><li>– Steps that will be taken to protect employees until WISHA requirements can be met</li><li>– When WISHA requirements will be met</li><li>– A statement that this request is from a qualified person who has first hand knowledge of the facts represented.</li></ul></li></ul>



WAC 296-900-11005

## Applying for a variance (continued)

### What to expect from WISHA:

- A review of all variance requests.
  - If more information is needed to make a decision, WISHA may:
    - Contact you or others who may have the needed information.
    - Visit your workplace after contacting you to make arrangements.
    - Deny your request if you don't provide information needed to make a decision on it.
- A decision at least 21 calendar days from when the request was posted for employees.
  - The 21-day period allows employees time to request a hearing on your variance application. See Variance hearings, WAC 296-900-11025.
- A written decision either granting or denying the variance.
  - If granted, the written decision will include all of the following:
    - The requirement for which the variance applies.
    - The locations where the variance applies.
    - What you must do as an alternative means of protecting employees.
    - The effective date of the variance.
    - An expiration date for the variance, if applicable.
    - The requirement to post the decision.
  - If denied, the written decision will include:
    - A brief statement with reasons for the denial.
    - The requirement to post the decision.
- WISHA will review permanent variances periodically after they have been in effect for 6 months, to decide whether they are still needed or need to be changed.



#### Note:

If there's an appealed WISHA citation and notice that relates to the variance request, the decision on the variance may be delayed until the appeal is resolved.





# Variances

WAC 296-900-110

## Rule

WAC 296-900-11010

### Interim orders



#### Definition:

An interim order allows an employer to vary from WISHA requirements until a permanent or temporary variance is granted.

#### You must

- Request an interim order if alternate methods of protecting employees are needed while waiting for a permanent or temporary variance.



#### Note:

An interim order may be requested at the same time a permanent or temporary variance is requested, or anytime after that.

#### What to expect from WISHA:

- A review of the request for an interim order.
  - If more information is needed to make a decision, WISHA may:
    - Contact the employer or others who may have the needed information.
    - Visit the workplace after contacting the employer to make arrangements.
    - Deny the request if the employer doesn't provide information needed to make a decision.
- A decision at least 21 calendar days from when the request was posted for employees.
  - The 21-day period allows employees time to request a hearing on your temporary variance renewal. See Variance hearings, WAC 296-900-11025.

**-Continued-**



WAC 296-900-11010

### Interim orders (continued)

- A written decision either granting or denying the interim order request.
  - If granted, the decision will include all of the following:
    - The requirement for which the interim order applies.
    - The locations where the interim order applies.
    - What you must do as an alternative means of protecting employees.
    - The effective date of the interim order.
    - An expiration date for the interim order.
    - The requirement to post the decision.
  - If denied, the decision will include:
    - A brief statement with reasons for the denial.
    - The requirement to post the decision.



**Note:**

- WISHA's decision to grant or deny an interim order request won't affect the decision on a permanent or temporary variance request.
- WISHA may choose to issue an interim order in response to a variance request, even when the interim order wasn't specifically requested.
- Interim orders are effective until they are revoked, or until the variance request is granted or denied.



# Variances

WAC 296-900-110

## Rule

WAC 296-900-11015

### Renewing a temporary variance

#### IMPORTANT:

Temporary variances can be renewed up to 2 times, for up to 180 days each time.

#### You must

- Apply for a temporary variance renewal at least 90 days before the temporary variance expires.
- Send a letter, explaining why more time is needed to fulfill the current requirements.

#### What to expect from WISHA:

- A review of the temporary variance renewal request.
  - If more information is needed to make a decision, WISHA may:
    - Contact you or others who may have the needed information.
    - Visit your workplace after contacting you to make arrangements.
    - Deny your request if you don't provide information needed to make a decision.
- A decision at least 21 calendar days from when the request was posted for employees.
  - The 21-day period allows employees time to request a hearing on your temporary variance renewal. See Variance hearings, WAC 296-900-11025.
- A written decision either granting or denying the temporary variance renewal request.
  - If granted, the written decision will include all of the following:
    - The requirements for which the temporary variance applies.
    - The locations where the temporary variance applies.
    - What you must do as an alternative means of protecting employees.
    - The effective date of the temporary variance.
    - An expiration date for the temporary variance.
    - The requirement to post the decision.
  - If denied, the written decision will include:
    - A brief statement with reasons for the denial.
    - The requirement to post the decision.



WAC 296-900-11020

### Changing a variance

#### **You, your employees, or their representatives may:**

- Request changes to variances in writing as follows:
  - For a permanent variance only after it's been in effect for at least 6 months.
  - For a temporary variance, only when renewing it.



#### **Note:**

- After 6 months, WISHA may initiate changes to a variance if they appear to be warranted.
- Employers can decide at any time to follow the original requirement, instead of the requested variance.

#### **What to expect from WISHA:**

- A review of your request to change a variance.
  - If more information is needed to make a decision, WISHA may:
    - Contact you or others who may have the needed information.
    - Visit your workplace after contacting you to make arrangements.
    - Deny your request for a change if you don't provide information needed to make a decision.
- A decision at least 21 calendar days from when the request was posted for employees.
  - The 21-day period allows employees time to request a hearing on your request to change a variance. See Variance hearings, WAC 296-900-11025.
- A written decision either granting or denying the change in variance.
  - If granted, the written decision will include all of the following:
    - The requirements for which the variance applies.
    - The locations for which the variance applies.
    - What you must do as an alternative means of protecting employees.
    - The effective date of the change in variance.
    - An expiration date of the variance, if applicable.
    - The requirement to post the decision.
  - If denied, the written decision will include:
    - A brief statement with reasons for the denial.
    - The requirement to post the decision.



# Variances

WAC 296-900-110

## Rule

WAC 296-900-11025

### Variance hearings

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Employers, affected employees, or employee representatives may request a hearing on any of the following:

- Permanent or temporary variance requests.
- Changes to existing variances.

#### **You and your affected employees must:**

- Do all of the following if requesting a variance hearing:
  - Put the request in writing and sign it.
  - Make sure the request is posted or delivered to the department within 21 calendar days from the variance application date, or renewal request date.
  - Send the written request to WISHA, using one of the following means:
    - Mail to:  
Assistant Director  
WISHA Services  
P.O. Box 44650  
Olympia, WA 98504-4650
    - Fax to: 360-902-5438
    - Take to any L&I office.

**-Continued-**



WAC 296-900-11025

### Variance hearings (continued)

#### You must

- Immediately do all of the following when you receive a notice of the hearing from WISHA:
  - Post a copy of the notice on the safety bulletin board.
  - Give a copy of the notice to affected employees and employee representatives.
  - Use any other appropriate means for notifying employees who may not receive notices posted on the safety bulletin board. For example, provide a copy to a designated representative or the safety committee.

#### What to expect from WISHA:

- WISHA will do both of the following after receiving a request for a hearing on a variance, change of variance, or temporary variance renewal:
  - Within 10 days, issue a notice advising all interested parties listed on the application that they have the option to participate in the hearing.
  - Provide you with a notice of the hearing at least 21 calendar days before the hearing date.
- A hearing for the variance or variance change will be conducted as follows:
  - A WISHA representative will explain WISHA's view of the request for a variance or any proposed change to a variance.
  - Employers, employees, or employee representatives will then have an opportunity to explain their views and provide any relevant documents or information.
- Information gathered at the hearing will be used to make a decision about whether to grant or deny the request for a variance or change in variance.



#### Note:

- WISHA may record a variance hearing.
- Employers, employees, or employee representatives may request copies of recordings or transcripts of variance hearings at cost.



# Notes

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# Inspections

WAC 296-900-120

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# Inspections

WAC 296-900-120

## Rule

WAC 296-900-12005

### WISHA inspections

- WISHA conducts the following types of **programmed** inspections:

- Hazardous workplaces.

WISHA identifies hazardous workplaces using objective criteria and inspection-scheduling systems that may include any of the following factors:

- Type of industry.
- Injury and illness data that identifies hazards.
- Employer's industrial insurance experience.
- Number, type, and toxicity of contaminants in the workplace.
- Degree of exposure to hazards.
- Number of employees exposed.
- Other factors, such as history of employee complaints.



**Note:**

WISHA periodically reviews the scheduling systems and may adjust the type or significance of each criteria.

- High hazard industries that include the following:
  - Agriculture
  - Asbestos renovation and demolition
  - Construction
  - Electrical utilities and communications
  - Logging
  - Maritime

**-Continued-**



WAC 296-900-12005

### WISHA inspections (continued)

- WISHA conducts the following types of **unprogrammed** inspections of workplaces that may be in violation of WISHA safety or health requirements or chapter 49.17 RCW, the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act. These inspections may focus only on certain areas or processes in a workplace or, depending on initial findings, may be expanded to include the entire workplace. Unprogrammed inspections may occur because of:
  - Complaints from current employees or employee representatives who believe they have been exposed to a hazard because of a violation.
  - Referrals from anyone, including former employees, who reasonably believes that workers under WISHA jurisdiction are being, or have been, exposed to a hazard because of a violation.
  - Workplace deaths, catastrophic events, or serious injury or illness.
  - A reason to believe that employees may be in imminent danger of serious injury or death.
  - Follow-up inspections to verify that hazards identified in a previous inspection have been corrected.



# Inspections

WAC 296-900-120

## Rule

WAC 296-900-12010

### Inspection techniques

- During an inspection, WISHA staff may:
  - Take samples, photographs, videotapes, or audiotapes
  - Conduct tests or interviews
  - Ask employees to wear sampling devices
  - Privately question, on or off the worksite, any:
    - Employer
    - Employer representative
    - Owner
    - Operator
    - Employee
    - Employee representative
  - Employ any other reasonable investigative techniques

WAC 296-900-12015

## Complaints

### Employees or employee representatives may:

- File a written complaint if they believe they have been exposed to a hazard that's a violation of WISHA safety and health requirements.

### What to expect from WISHA:

- After receiving a written complaint from an employee or employee representative, WISHA reviews the allegations and responds according to Table 2, WISHA Responses to Employee Complaints.

-Continued-



WAC 296-900-12015

### Complaints (continued)

Table 2

#### WISHA Responses to Employee Complaints

For this determination	WISHA will take the following actions
The complaint is within WISHA jurisdiction and an inspection doesn't appear to be needed at this time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call the employer to discuss the complaint</li> <li>• Set a deadline for the employer to respond in writing</li> <li>• Fax or mail a complaint notification letter to the employer. Before the complaint is faxed or mailed, the following names will be removed unless specific permission is given to include them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The name of the person submitting the complaint</li> <li>– The names of any employees identified in the complaint</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Evaluate the employer's response, and do one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Close the complaint because the issues have been addressed, and send a copy of the employer's response to the person filing the complaint.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Inspect the workplace</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ If the complaint is closed and additional information is received from the person filing the complaint disputing the employer's written response, WISHA may schedule an inspection</li> <li>➤ If the person who filed the original complaint requests in writing that WISHA review a decision not to conduct an inspection, WISHA will review the decision and notify the person in writing of the results</li> <li>➤ If the person requesting the review isn't satisfied with the results of the review, they may request a second review by the assistant director or designee</li> </ul>
The complaint is within WISHA jurisdiction and an inspection needs to be conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an inspection</li> <li>• Issue a citation and notice that shows one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Violations found</li> <li>– No violations were found</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Send a letter to the person filing the complaint with inspection results</li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b></p> <p>For citation and notice information, turn to citation and notice, WAC 296-900-130</p>
The complaint isn't within WISHA jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Send a written response to the person filing the complaint explaining the matter isn't within WISHA jurisdiction</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <p>WISHA may make a referral to the proper authority</p>



# Notes

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# Citation and Notice

WAC 296-900-130

## Section Contents

### EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

To notify employees when a citation and notice is received

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# Citation and Notice

WAC 296-900-130

## Rule

WAC 296-900-13005

### Citation and notice



#### Definition:

A *citation and notice* is a document issued to an employer notifying them of:

- Inspection results.
  - Any specific violations of WISHA safety and health requirements.
  - Any monetary penalties assessed.
  - Employer certification of correction requirements.
- WISHA will mail a citation and notice to you as soon as possible but not later than 6 months following any inspection or investigation.
  - If violations are found, the citation and notice will include:
    - A description of violations found.
    - The amount and type of assessed penalties.
    - The length of time given to correct the violations not already corrected during the inspection.
  - If no violations are found, a notice of inspection results will be sent stating that no violations were found or penalties assessed.

# Citation and Notice

WAC 296-900-130

## Rule



WAC 296-900-13010

### Copies of future citation and notices

- Employees or their representatives wishing to receive copies of citation and notices during the next 12 months must:
  - Submit a request for copy of citation and notice form to the following:  
Department of Labor and Industries  
Standards and Information  
P.O. Box 44638  
Olympia, WA 98504-4638



#### Note:

A Request for Copy of Citation and Notice form can be obtained by:

- Calling 360-902-5553.
- Contacting the local L&I office.



#### Reference:

For a list of the local L&I offices, see the Resources section of the Safety and Health Core Rules, Chapter 296-800 WAC.

### What to expect from WISHA:

- WISHA may decide who will receive copies of the citation and notices if more than one employee or employee representative requests a copy.
- WISHA may deny a request for copies of citation and notices if the person filing the request isn't an employee or employee representative.
- If WISHA grants the request for copies of citation and notices, the employee or employee representative will:
  - Receive an approval document from WISHA.
  - Receive all citation and notices issued to that employer for the next 12 months.
  - Continue receiving citation and notices for an additional 12 months if a one-year extension is requested and approved.





# Citation and Notice

WAC 296-900-130

## Rule

WAC 296-900-13015

### Posting citation and notices

#### You must

- Immediately notify employees of a citation and notice by posting it and any correspondence related to an employee complaint on the safety bulletin board for 3 working days or until all violations are corrected, whichever time period is longer.
- Use any other appropriate means to notify employees who may receive notices posted on the safety bulletin board.
  - Examples of other appropriate means include sending a copy by mail or electronically to any of the following:
    - A designated employee representative
    - Safety representatives
    - The safety committee

# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Section Contents

### EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

#### To pay monetary penalties if assessed

TITLE	PAGE
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Base penalties WAC 296-900-14010 .....	140-3
Base penalty adjustments WAC 296-900-14015 .....	140-7
Increases to adjusted base penalties WAC 296-900-14020 .....	140-10



#### Definition:

*Monetary penalties* are fines assessed against an employer for violations of safety and health requirements.



# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14005

### Reasons for monetary penalties

- WISHA **may** assess monetary penalties when a citation and notice is issued for any violation of safety and health rules or statutes.
- WISHA **will** assess monetary penalties under the following conditions:
  - When a citation and notice is issued for a serious, willful, or egregious violation.
  - When civil penalties are specified by statute as described in RCW 49.17.180.



#### Note:

In addition to penalties specified by WISHA, there are penalties specified by other statutes, such as:

- Asbestos construction projects, RCW 49.26.016.
  - Right to know (RTK)-MSDS, RCW 49.70.190.
  - Right to know-Penalty for late payment, RCW 49.70.177.
- The minimum civil penalties assessed by WISHA are:
    - 100 dollars for any penalty
    - 5,000 dollars per violation for all willful violations
    - 250 dollars per day for asbestos good faith inspection (RCW 49.26.016 and 49.26.013).



# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14010

### Base penalties

- WISHA calculates the base penalty for a violation by considering the following:
  - Specific amounts that are dictated by statute
  - or**
  - By assigning a weight to a violation, called "gravity." Gravity is calculated by multiplying a violation's severity rate by its probability rate. Expressed as a formula:

$$\text{Gravity} = \text{Severity} \times \text{Probability}$$



#### Note:

Most base penalties are calculated by the gravity method.

- Severity and probability are established in the following ways:

#### Severity:

- Severity rates are based on the most serious injury, illness, or disease that could be reasonably expected to occur because of a hazardous condition.
- Severity rates are expressed in whole numbers and range from 1 (lowest) to 6 (highest). Violations with a severity rating of 4, 5, or 6 are considered serious.
- WISHA uses Table 3, Severity Rates, to determine the severity rate for a violation.



# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14010

### Base penalties (continued)

**Table 3**  
**Severity Rates**

Severity	Most serious injury, illness, or disease from the violation is likely to be
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Death</li><li>• Injuries involving permanent severe disability</li><li>• Chronic, irreversible illness</li></ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Permanent disability of a limited or less severe nature</li><li>• Injuries or reversible illnesses resulting in hospitalization</li></ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Injuries or temporary, reversible illnesses resulting in serious physical harm</li><li>• May require removal from exposure or supportive treatment without hospitalization for recovery</li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Would probably not cause death or serious physical harm, but have at least a major impact on and indirect relationship to serious injury, illness, or disease</li><li>• Could have direct and immediate relationship to safety and health of employees</li><li>• First aid is the only medical treatment needed</li></ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indirect relationship to nonserious injury, illness, or disease</li><li>• No injury, illness, or disease without additional violations</li></ul>
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No injury, illness, disease</li><li>• Not likely to result in injury even in the presence of other violations</li></ul>

-Continued-



# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14010

### Base penalties (continued)

#### Probability:



#### Definition:

A *probability rate* is a number that describes the likelihood of an injury, illness, or disease occurring, ranging from 1 (lowest) to 6 (highest).

- When determining probability, WISHA considers a variety of factors, depending on the situation, such as:
  - Frequency and amount of exposure.
  - Number of employees exposed.
  - Instances, or number of times the hazard is identified in the workplace.
  - How close an employee is to the hazard, i.e., the proximity of the employee to the hazard.
  - Weather and other working conditions.
  - Employee skill level and training.
  - Employee awareness of the hazard.
  - The pace, speed, and nature of the task or work.
  - Use of personal protective equipment.
  - Other mitigating or contributing circumstances.
- WISHA uses Table 4, Gravity Based Penalty, to determine the dollar amount for each gravity-based penalty, unless otherwise specified by statute.



-Continued-

# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14010

### Base penalties (continued)

Table 4  
Gravity Based Penalty

Gravity	Base Penalty
1	\$100
2	\$200
3	\$300
4	\$400
5	\$500
6	\$1000
8	\$1500
9	\$2000
10	\$2500
12	\$3000
15	\$3500
16	\$4000
18	\$4500
20	\$5000
24	\$5500
25	\$6000
30	\$6500
36	\$7000



# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14015

### Base penalty adjustments

- WISHA may adjust base penalties. Table 5, Adjusted Base Penalties, describes the various factors WISHA considers when adjusting a base penalty, and the effect on the fine.
  - The minimum adjusted base penalty for any violation carrying a penalty is 100 dollars.
  - The minimum penalty for willful violations is 5,000 dollars.
  - The maximum adjusted base penalty for a violation is 7,000 dollars.
- No adjustments are made to minimum penalty amounts specified by statute.



**Note:**

Repeat, willful, egregious, or failure-to-abate (failure to correct) penalty adjustments can exceed 7,000 dollars. See Increases to adjusted base penalties, WAC 296-900-14020, for those penalties.



-Continued-



# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14015

### Base penalty adjustments (continued)

**Table 5**  
**Adjusted Base Penalties**

For this type of adjustment	WISHA will consider	The base penalty will be adjusted as follows
Good faith effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awareness of act</li><li>• Effort before an inspection to provide a safe and healthful workplace for employees</li><li>• Effort to follow a requirement they have violated</li><li>• Cooperation during an inspection, measured by a desire to follow the cited requirement and immediately correct identified hazard</li></ul>	Excellent rating = 35% reduction Good rating = 20% reduction Average rating = No adjustment Poor rating = 20% increase
Size of workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Workforce size at all sites in Washington State</li></ul>	1-25 employees = 60% reduction 26-100 employees = 40% reduction 101-250 employees = 20% reduction More than 250 employees = No adjustment
Employer history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• History of previous safety and health violations in Washington State and injury and illness rates for that employer</li></ul>	Good history = 10% reduction Average history = No adjustment Poor history = 10% increase



# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14020

### **Increases to adjusted base penalties**

- WISHA may increase an adjusted base penalty in certain circumstances. Table 6, Increases to Adjusted Base Penalties, describes circumstances where an increase may be applied to an adjusted base penalty.



-Continued-

# Monetary Penalties

WAC 296-900-140

## Rule

WAC 296-900-14020

### Increases to adjusted base penalties (continued)

Table 6  
Increases to Adjusted Base Penalties

For this circumstance	The adjusted base penalty may be increased as follows
<b>Repeat violation</b> When the employer has been previously cited for a substantially similar hazard, with a final order for the previous violation dated no more than 3 years prior to the employer committing the violation being cited.	Multiplied by the total number of citations with violations involving similar hazards, including the current inspection <b>Note:</b> The maximum penalty can't exceed 70,000 dollars for each violation.
<b>Willful violation</b> An act committed with the intentional, knowing, or voluntary disregard for the WISHA requirements or with plain indifference to employee safety	Multiplied by 10 with at least the statutory minimum penalty of 5,000 dollars. <b>Note:</b> The maximum penalty can't exceed 70,000 dollars for each violation
<b>Egregious violation</b> If the violation was willful and at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The violations resulted in worker fatalities, a worksite catastrophe, or a large number of injuries or illnesses</li><li>- The violations resulted in persistently high rates of worker injuries or illnesses</li><li>- The employer has an extensive history of prior violations</li><li>- The employer has intentionally disregarded its safety and health responsibilities</li><li>- The employer's conduct taken as a whole amounts to clear bad faith in the performance of his/her duties.</li><li>- The employer has committed a large number of violations so as to undermine significantly the effectiveness of any safety and health program that might be in place</li></ul>	With a separate penalty issued for each instance the employer fails to follow a specific requirement
<b>Failure to abate (FTA)</b> Failure to correct a cited WISHA violation on time <b>Reference:</b> For how to certify corrected violations, go to Certifying violation corrections, WAC 296-900-15005 through 296-900-15030	Based on the facts at the time of reinspection, will be multiplied by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- At least 5, but up to 10, based on the employer's effort to comply</li><li>- The number of calendar days past the correction date, with a minimum of 5 days.</li></ul> <b>Note:</b> The maximum penalty can't exceed 70,000 dollars per day for every day the violation isn't corrected



# Certifying Violation Corrections

WAC 296-900-150

## Section Contents

### EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

- To certify that violations to safety and health requirements have been corrected.
- To submit, if required:
  - Additional information
  - Correction action plans
  - Progress reports
- To comply with correction due dates
- To tag cited moveable equipment to warn employees of a hazard
- To inform affected employees that each violation was corrected

TITLE	PAGE
Certify violation correction WAC 296-900-15005 .....	150-2
Violation correction action plans WAC 296-900-15010 .....	150-3
Progress reports WAC 296-900-15015 .....	150-4
Timeliness of violation correction documents WAC 296-900-15020 .....	150-4
Inform employees about violation correction WAC 296-900-15025 .....	150-5
Tag moveable equipment WAC 296-900-15030 .....	150-6



# Violation Corrections

WAC 296-900-150

## Rule

WAC 296-900-15005

### Certifying violation correction



#### Definition:

A **correction date** is the date by which you must meet the WISHA requirements listed on either a:

- Citation and notice (C&N)

**or**

- A corrective notice of redetermination (CNR).

#### You must

- Certify in writing within 10 calendar days following the correction date shown on the C&N that each violation has been corrected. Include the following:
  - Employer name and address.
  - The inspection number involved.
  - The citation and item numbers which have been corrected.
  - The date each violation was corrected and the method used to correct them.
  - A statement that both:
    - Affected employees and their representatives were informed that each violation was corrected;
    - and**
    - The information submitted is accurate.
  - Employer's signature or the signature of employer's designated representative.



#### Note:

Certification isn't required if the WISHA compliance officer indicates in the C&N, or a reassumption hearings officer indicates in a CNR, that they have already been corrected.

#### You must

- Submit additional documentation for willful or repeated violations, demonstrating that they were corrected. This documentation may include, but isn't limited to:
  - Evidence of the purchase or repair of equipment.
  - Photographic or video evidence of corrections.
  - Other written records.
- Submit additional documentation for serious violations when required in the C&N or CNR.



# Certifying Violation Corrections

WAC 296-900-150

## Rule

WAC 296-900-15010

### Violation correction action plans

#### You must

- Submit a written violation correction action plan within 25 calendar days from the final order date when the citation and notice or corrective notice of redetermination requires it. Include all of the following in the violation correction action plan:
  - Identification of the violation.
  - The steps that will be taken to correct the violation.
  - A schedule to complete the steps.
  - A description of how employees will be protected until the corrections are completed.

#### What to expect from WISHA:

- WISHA will notify you in writing only if your plan isn't adequate, and describe necessary changes.



# Violation Corrections

WAC 296-900-150

## Rule

WAC 296-900-15015

### Progress reports

#### You must

- Submit written progress reports on corrections when required in the citation and notice (C&N) or corrective notice of redetermination (CNR), and briefly explain the:
  - Status of each violation.
  - Action taken to correct each violation.
  - Date each action has or will be taken.

#### What to expect from WISHA:

- WISHA will state in the C&N or CNR if progress reports are required, including:
  - Items that require progress reports.
  - Date when an initial progress report must be submitted. The initial progress report is due no sooner than 30 calendar days after you submit a correction action plan.
  - Whether additional progress reports are required, and the dates by which they must be submitted.

WAC 296-900-15020

### Timeliness of violation correction documents

#### What to expect from WISHA:

- WISHA will determine the timeliness of violation correction documents by reviewing the following:
  - The postmark date for documents sent by mail.
  - The date received by other means, such as personal delivery or fax.



# Certifying Violation Corrections

WAC 296-900-150

## Rule

WAC 296-900-15025

### Inform employees about violation correction

#### You must

- Inform employees about violation corrections by doing the following:
  - Post a copy of each violation correction document submitted to WISHA, or a summary, near the place where the violations occurred, if practical.
    - If posting near the place where the violation occurred isn't practical, such as with a mobile work operation, post in a place readily accessible to affected employees or take other steps to fully communicate actions taken to affected employees or their representatives.
  - Keep violation correction information posted for at least 3 working days after submitting the correction documents to WISHA.
  - Give notice to employees and their representatives on or before the date you submit correction information to WISHA.
  - Make sure that all posted correction documents aren't altered, defaced, or covered by other materials.
- Inform employees and their representatives of their right to examine and copy all correction documents submitted to WISHA.
  - If they ask to examine or copy documents within 3 working days of receiving notice that the documents were submitted to WISHA, provide access or copies no later than 5 days after receiving their request.





# Violation Corrections

WAC 296-900-150

## Rule

WAC 296-900-15030

### Tag moveable equipment

#### You must

- Tag moveable equipment that has been cited to warn employees if a hazard hasn't been corrected, as follows:
  - Attach a warning tag or a copy of the citation to the equipment's operating controls or to the cited component.
    - For hand-held equipment, tag it immediately after you receive a citation.
    - For other equipment, tag it before moving it within the worksite or between worksites.



#### Note:

The tag should warn employees about the nature of the violation and tell them where the citation is posted.



#### Reference:

For a sample tag that meets this requirement, go to helpful tools, Sample Tag for Cited Moveable Equipment, in the Resources section of this chapter.

#### You must

- Make sure that the tag or copy of the citation attached to movable equipment isn't altered, defaced, or covered by other materials.
- Keep the tag or copy of the citation attached to movable equipment until one of the following occurs:
  - Violations have been corrected and all certification documents have been submitted to WISHA.
  - Cited equipment is permanently removed from service.
  - The final order from an appeal vacates (voids) the violation.



#### Note:

Safety Standards for Construction Work, Chapter 296-155 WAC, has information on warning tags. You can use warning tags that meet those requirements instead of the warning tags required by this rule.



# More Time To Comply

WAC 296-900-160

## Section Contents

### YOUR RESPONSIBILITY:

- To submit timely requests when more time is needed to correct violations
- To post requests for more time for employees

TITLE	PAGE
Requesting more time to comply WAC 296-900-16005 .....	160-2
Post WISHA's response to requests for more time WAC 296-900-16010 .....	160-4
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Post WISHA's violation correction hearing notice WAC 296-900-16020 .....	160-5
Violation correction hearing procedures WAC 296-900-16025 .....	160-6
Post the violation correction hearing decision WAC 296-900-16030 .....	160-7





# More Time To Comply

WAC 296-900-160

## Rule

WAC 296-900-16005

### Requesting more time to comply

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Employers can request more time to correct violations if they:

- Have made a good faith effort to correct the violation.
- Haven't corrected the violation because of factors beyond their control.

#### **You must**

- Submit any requests for more time to correct violations in writing. Requests must be received or postmarked before midnight of the correction date shown on the citation and notice (C&N) or corrective notice of redetermination (CNR), and include:
  - The business name.
  - The address of the workplaces.
  - The citation and the correction dates to be extended.
  - The new correction date and length of correction period being requested.
  - A description of the actions that have been, and are being, taken to meet the correction dates in the C&N or CNR.
  - Factors preventing correction of violations by the date required.
  - The means that will be used to protect employees while the violation is being corrected.
  - Certification that the request for correction date extension has been posted, and if appropriate, certification that a copy was delivered to affected employees or their representatives.
  - Employer's signature or the signature of the employer's representative.
  - Date.

**-Continued-**

# More Time To Comply

WAC 296-900-160

## Rule

WAC 296-900-16005

### Requesting more time to comply (continued)

- Submit requests by one of the following methods:
  - First class mail, postage prepaid to any L&I office.
  - Take to any L&I office.
  - Fax to the number shown in the C&N.



#### Reference:

For a list of the local offices, see the resources section of the Safety and Health Core Rules, Chapter 296-800 WAC.

### What to expect from WISHA:

- WISHA **may**:
  - Accept late requests if they are both:  
Received within 5 days following the related correction date;  
**and**  
Accompanied by your written statement explaining the exceptional circumstances that caused the delay.



#### Note:

WISHA doesn't accept late requests when compliance activity has already started.

- WISHA **may**:
  - Respond to telephone requests or personal conversations asking for more time to comply if timely, and followed up in writing within 24 hours.
  - Conduct an investigation before making a decision whether to grant a request for more time.
- WISHA **will**:
  - Make a decision whether or not to grant the employer more time. Once made, the decision remains in effect unless an employee or employee representative requests a hearing.
  - Keep the original correction date in effect unless a notice granting more time is sent.

More Time  
To Comply





# More Time To Comply

WAC 296-900-160

## Rule

WAC 296-900-16010

### Post WISHA's response to requests for more time

#### You must

- Post notices from WISHA approving additional time to correct citations, with the related citation, immediately upon receipt.
- Keep the notices posted until one of the following occur:
  - The correction date has passed.
  - A hearing notice is requested and posted.

WAC 96-900-16015

### Correction date hearing requests

#### IMPORTANT:

- Affected employees or their designated representatives may request a hearing if they disagree with WISHA's decision to grant an employer more time to correct a violation.
- Employers may request a hearing if WISHA denies their request for more time to correct a violation.

#### You, your employees, or their representatives must:

- Send requests for hearings, if desired, in writing no later than 10 calendar days after the issue date of the notice granting more time to correct a violation to:
  - Mail to:  
Assistant Director for WISHA Services  
Attn: WISHA Appeals  
P.O. Box 44604  
Olympia, WA 98504-4604
  - Fax to: 360-902-5581
  - Take to any department service location.



#### Reference:

For a list of the local offices, see the Resources section of the Safety and Health Core Rules, chapter 296-800 WAC.

# More Time To Comply

WAC 296-900-160

## Rule

WAC 296-900-16020

### Post WISHA's violation correction hearing notice

#### You must

- Post WISHA's hearing notice or a complete copy until the hearing is held, along with the:
  - Citation containing the correction date for which more time was requested.
  - Department notices issued in response to the employer's request for more time.

More Time  
To Comply





# More Time To Comply

WAC 296-900-160

## Rule

WAC 296-900-16025

### Violation correction hearing procedures

#### What to expect from WISHA:

- After receiving a hearing request, the assistant director for WISHA services will appoint someone from WISHA to act as a hearings officer.
- The hearings officer:
  - Will send a hearing notice to the employer and employee at least 20 days before the hearing date that includes all of the following:
    - A statement that all interested parties can participate in the hearing.
    - The time, date, and place of the hearing.
    - A short and clear explanation why a hearing was requested.
    - The nature of the proceeding, including the specific sections of the statute or rule involved.
    - The legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing will be held.
  - May discuss the material to be presented to determine how the hearing will proceed.
- An assistant attorney general may be present at the hearing to give legal advice to the hearings officer.
- The hearing will be conducted by either:
  - The hearings officer;
  - or**
  - The assistant attorney general, if requested by the hearings officer.
- After the hearing, WISHA will issue an order that either affirms or modifies the correction date that caused the hearing.

# More Time To Comply

WAC 296-900-160

## Rule

WAC 296-900-16030

### **Post the violation correction hearing decision**

#### **You must**

- Post a complete, unedited copy of the order affirming or modifying the correction date as soon as it's received, along with the applicable citation.

More Time  
To Comply





# Notes

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## Section Contents

### EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

To post information regarding appeals in a conspicuous area  
where notices to employees are normally posted

TITLE	PAGE
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Appealing a corrective notice of redetermination (CNR) WAC 296-900-17010 .....	170-6
Posting appeals WAC 296-900-17015 .....	170-7

# Appeals

WAC 296-900-170

WAC 296-900-17005

## Appealing a citation and notice (C&N)

### IMPORTANT:

- Employers may appeal C&Ns.
- Employees of the cited employer, or their designated representatives, may only appeal correction dates.

### You must

- When appealing, submit a written appeal to WISHA within 15 working days after receiving the C&N. Include the following information:
  - Business name, address, and telephone number.
  - Name, address, and telephone number of any employer representative.
  - C&N number.
  - What you believe is wrong with the C&N and any related facts.
  - What you believe should be changed, and why.
  - A signature and date.
- Send appeals in any of the following ways:
  - Mail to:  
Assistant Director for WISHA Services  
Attn: WISHA Appeals  
P.O. Box 44604  
Olympia, WA 98504-4604
  - Fax to: 360-902-5581
  - Take to any department service location.



### Reference:

See the resources section of the Safety and Health Core Rules, Chapter 296-800 WAC, for a list of the local offices.



### Note:

The postmark is considered the submission date of a mailed request.

**-Continued-**

WAC 296-900-17005

### Appealing a citation and notice (C&N) (continued)

#### Employees or their designated representatives must:

- When appealing C&N correction dates, submit a written request to WISHA within 15 working days after the C&N is received. Include the following information:
  - Name of employee, address, telephone number.
  - Name, address, and telephone number of any designated representative.
  - C&N number.
  - What is believed to be wrong with the correction date.
  - A signature and date.
- Send appeals in any of the following ways:
  - Mail to:  
Assistant Director for WISHA Services  
Attn: WISHA Appeals  
P.O. Box 44604  
Olympia, WA 98504-4604
  - Fax to: 360-902-5581
  - Take to any L&I service location.



#### Reference:

See the Resources section of the Safety and Health Core Rules, Chapter 296-800 WAC, for a list of the local offices.



#### Note:

The postmark is considered the submission date of a mailed request.

**-Continued-**

# Appeals

WAC 296-900-170

WAC 296-900-17005

## Appealing a citation and notice (C&N) (continued)

### What to expect from WISHA:

- After receiving an appeal, WISHA will do one of the following:
  - Reassume jurisdiction over the C&N, and notify the person who submitted the appeal.
  - Forward the appeal to the Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals. The board will send the person submitting the appeal a notice with the time and location of any board proceedings.



#### Definition:

*Reassume jurisdiction* means that WISHA has decided to provide the employer with an informal conference to discuss their appeal.

- When reassuming jurisdiction over a C&N, WISHA has 30 working days after receiving the appeal to review it, gather more information, and decide whether to make changes to the C&N. The review period:
  - Begins the first working day after the appeal is received. For example, if an appeal is received on Friday, the 30 days will begin on the following Monday unless it's a state holiday.
  - May be extended 15 additional working days, if everyone involved agrees and signs an extension agreement within the initial 30-day period.
  - Will include an informal conference about the appeal that's an opportunity for interested parties to:
    - Briefly explain their positions.
    - Provide any additional information they would like WISHA to consider when reviewing the C&N.

-Continued-

WAC 296-900-17005

### Appealing a citation and notice (C&N) (continued)



**Note:**

WISHA might reassume jurisdiction over a C&N to do any of the following:

- Provide an employer and affected employees an opportunity to present relevant information, facts, and opinions during an informal conference.
  - Give an employer, affected employees, and the department an opportunity to resolve appeals rapidly and without further contest, especially in routine compliance cases.
  - Educate employers about the C&N, the WISHA appeals process, and WISHA compliance.
  - Review citations, penalties, and correction dates. Although informal, the conference is an official meeting and it may be either partially or totally recorded. Participants will be told if the conference is recorded.
- On or before the end of the 30 working day review period, WISHA will issue a corrective notice of redetermination that:
    - Reflects any changes made to the C&N.
    - Is sent to the employer, employees, and employee representatives participating in the appeal process.

# Appeals

WAC 296-900-170

WAC 296-900-17010

## Appealing a corrective notice of redetermination (CNR)

### IMPORTANT:

- Employers may appeal CNRs.
- Employees who could be affected by a CNR, or their designated representatives, may appeal correction dates.

### Employees or their representatives must:

- Appeal a CNR, if desired, in writing within 15 working days after it was received to the:
  - Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals
  - 2430 Chandler Court S.W.
  - P.O. Box 42401
  - Olympia, WA 98504-2401
- Send a copy of the appeal to the CNR to the:
  - Assistant Director for WISHA Services
  - Attn: WISHA Appeals
  - P.O. Box 44604
  - Olympia, WA 98504-4604
  - Fax to: 360-902-5581
  - Take to any department service location.

WAC 296-900-17015

### Posting appeals

#### You must

- Immediately post notices and information related to any appeal in the same place where WISHA citation and notices (C&Ns) are posted. These notices and information include:
  - The notice of appeal, until the appeal is resolved.
  - Notices about WISHA reassuming jurisdiction, and any extension of the review period until the end of review period.
  - A notice of an informal conference until after the conference is held.
  - A corrective notice of redetermination for as long as C&Ns are to be posted.



#### Reference:

- For C&N posting requirements, see Posting citation and notices, WAC 296-900-13015.



# Notes

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# Administrative Rules

WAC 296-900-180

## Definitions

### Affected employees

Employees who could be one of the following:

- Exposed to unsafe conditions or practices.
- Affected by a request for, or change in, a variance from WISHA requirements.

### Assistant director

The assistant director for the WISHA services division at the Department of Labor and Industries or his/her designated representative.

### Board

The Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals.

### Certification

An employer's written statement describing when and how a citation violation was corrected.

### Citation

See citation and notice.

### Citation and notice

Issued to an employer for any violation of WISHA safety and health requirements. Also known as a citation and notice of assessment, or simply citation.

### Correction action plans

Your written plans for correcting a WISHA violation.

### Correction date

The date by which you must meet the WISHA requirements listed on either a:

- Citation and notice (C&N)
- or**
- A Corrective notice of redetermination (CNR).

**-Continued-**



# Administrative Rules

WAC 296-900-180

## Definitions

### Corrective notice of redetermination (CNR)

Issued by WISHA after WISHA has reassumed jurisdiction over an appealed citation and notice.

### Designated representative

Any of the following:

- Any individual or organization to which an employee gives written authorization.
- A recognized or certified collective bargaining agent without regard to written employee authorization.
- The legal representative of a deceased or legally incapacitated employee.

### Documentation

Material that an employer submits to prove that a correction is completed. Documentation includes, but isn't limited to, photographs, receipts for materials and labor.

### Failure to abate (FTA)

A violation that was cited previously which the employer has not fixed.

### Final order

Any of the following (unless an employer or other party files a timely appeal):

- Citation and notice.
- Corrective notice of redetermination.
- Decision and order from the Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals.
- Denial of petition for review from the Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals.
- Decision from a Washington State Superior Court, Court of Appeals, or the State Supreme Court.

**-Continued-**



# Administrative Rules

WAC 296-900-180

## Definitions

### **Final order date**

The date a final order is issued.

### **Hazard**

Any condition, potential or inherent, which can cause injury, death, or occupational disease.

### **Imminent danger violation**

Any violation resulting from conditions or practices in any place of employment, which are such that a danger exists which could reasonably be expected to cause death or serious physical harm, immediately or before such danger can be eliminated through the enforcement procedures otherwise provided by the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act.

### **Interim order**

An order allowing an employer to vary from WISHA requirements until a permanent or temporary variance is granted.

### **Monetary penalties**

Fines assessed against an employer for violations of safety and health requirements.

### **Movable equipment**

A hand-held or nonhand-held machine or device that:

- Is powered or nonpowered.
- Can be moved within or between worksites.

### **Must**

Means mandatory.

### **Permanent variance**

Allows an employer to vary from WISHA requirements when an alternate means, that provides equal protection to workers, is used.

**-Continued-**



# Administrative Rules

WAC 296-900-180

## Definitions

### Probability rate

A number that describes the likelihood of an injury, illness, or disease occurring, ranging from 1 (lowest) to 6 (highest).

### Reassume jurisdiction

WISHA has decided to provide the employer with an informal conference to discuss their appeal.

### Repeat violation

A violation where the employer has been cited one or more times previously for a substantially similar hazard, and the prior violation has become a final order no more than 3 years prior to the employer committing the violation being cited.

### Serious violation

When there is a substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from one of the following in the workplace:

- A condition that exists.
- One or more practices, means, methods, operations, or processes that have been adopted or are in use.

### Temporary variance

Allows an employer to vary from WISHA requirements under certain circumstances.

### Variance

Provides an approved alternative to WISHA requirements to protect employees from a workplace hazard. Variances can be permanent or temporary.

### WAC

An acronym for Washington Administrative Code, which are rules developed to address state law.

**-Continued-**



# Administrative Rules

WAC 296-900-180

## Definitions

### **WISHA**

This is an acronym for the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act.

### **You**

An employer.



# Notes

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# Administrative Rules

Chapter 296-900 WAC

## Resources

### HELPFUL TOOLS

Sample Tag for Cited Moveable Equipment .....R-2





# Notes

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# Sample Tag for Cited Moveable Equipment

Use with Administrative Rules, Chapter 296-900 WAC



## **WARNING: EQUIPMENT HAZARD**

**Cited by the Department of  
Labor & Industries**

**Equipment cited:**

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**Hazard cited:**

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For detailed information, see L&I  
citation posted at:

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## **WARNING: EQUIPMENT HAZARD**

**See reverse side**

This tag or similar tag or a copy of the citation must remain attached to this equipment until the criteria for removal in WAC 296-900-15030 are met.

The tag/citation copy must not be altered, defaced, or covered by other material.

# Administrative Rules

Chapter 296-900 WAC

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# Administrative Rules

Chapter 296-900 WAC

## Statutory Authority

### **296-900-100 Scope.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-100, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-110 Variances.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-110, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-11005 Applying for a variance.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-11005, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-11010 Interim orders.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-11010, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-11015 Renewing a temporary variance.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-11015, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-11020 Changing a variance.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-11020, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-11025 Variance hearings.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-11025, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-120 Inspections.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-120, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-12005 WISHA inspections.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-12005, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-12010 Inspection techniques.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-12010, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-12015 Complaints.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-12015, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-130 Citation and notice.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-130, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-13005 Citation and notice.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-13005, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-13010 Copies of future citation and notices.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-13010, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

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# Administrative Rules

Chapter 296-900 WAC

## Statutory Authority

### **296-900-13015 Posting citation and notices.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-13015, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-140 Monetary penalties.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-140, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-14005 Reasons for monetary penalties**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-14005, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-14010 Base penalties.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-14010, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-14015 Base penalty adjustments.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-14015, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-14020 Increases to adjusted base penalties.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-14020, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-150 Certifying violation corrections.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-150, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-15005 Certifying violation correction.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-15005, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-15010 Violation correction action plan.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-15010, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-15015 Progress reports.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-15015, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-15020 Timeliness of violation correction documents.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-15020, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-15025 Inform employees about violation correction.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-15025, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-15030 Tag moveable equipment.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-15030, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

# Administrative Rules

Chapter 296-900 WAC

## Statutory Authority

### **296-900-160 More time to comply.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-160, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-16005 Requesting more time to comply.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-16005, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-16010 Post WISHA's response to requests for more time.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-16010, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-16015 Correction date hearing requests.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-16015, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-16020 Post WISHA's violation correction hearing notice.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-16020, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-16025 Violation correction hearing procedures.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-16025, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-16030 Post the violation correction hearing decision.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-16030, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-170 Appeals.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-170, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-17005 Appealing a citation and notice (C&N).**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-17005, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-17010 Appealing a correction notice of redetermination (CNR).**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-17010, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-17015 Posting appeals.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-17015, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

### **296-900-180 Definitions.**

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 06-06-020 (Order 05-15), § 296-900-180, filed 02/21/06, effective 04/01/06]

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# Notes

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